



NAME: CDR Patricia J. Pacheco

JOB TITLE: CHIEF PHARMACIST

AGENCY: FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS (BOP)

EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:

Dr. Pacheco completed her pre-pharmacy curriculum at the University of Nebraska and received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Pharmacy in 1981.

She continued to develop her skills and further her education by participating in several advanced training courses throughout her career. A few examples of the advanced training courses she has attended are: Spanish Language Training, Computer Basics, JCAHO Accreditation Training, Psychopharmacology Specialty Training in Moscow, and Advances in Clinical Psychiatry and Psychopharmacology.

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:

As the Chief of Pharmacy Services, Dr. Pacheco is responsible for the total pharmacy operation of two separate correctional institutions in Milan; the Federal Correctional Institution and the Federal Detention Center. Her responsibilities include providing prescription services; such as processing medication orders, reviewing orders for accuracy and appropriateness of therapy, and performing clinical pharmacy interventions when necessary. Additional duties include maintaining daily narcotic and syringe inventories as well as the required DEA inventories, supervising pharmacy technicians, and teaching pharmacy students during college externship rotations and the PHS COSTEP student program. Dr. Pacheco also performs various administrative functions involving the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, Improving Operational Performance Committee, and Budget Control meetings.

QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:

The Doctor of Pharmacy Degree gave Dr. Pacheco a strong clinical background and focus for the beginning of her career. She began her career as an Assistant Professor at the Montana School of Pharmacy. Her love for teaching and being an educator is still

evident in her mentoring of students and extensive patient counseling efforts today.

She gained extensive experience in retail pharmacy settings, where she developed her skills of processing orders, dispensing medications and inventory control; all functions still very much a part of her everyday routine. Her hospital experience laid the groundwork for her extensive chart reviewing practices of today. Dr. Pacheco's first experience with the BOP was in 1991 where, as a contract pharmacist, she developed the pharmacy program at the Federal Prison Camp in Boron, California. Each career path enabled her to develop new skills and techniques that prepared her for the responsibilities and challenges of her current position.

Dr. Pacheco's dedication and hard work have gained her recognition among her peers. Her exceptional clinical approach to pharmacy services was recognized in 1998 when she was awarded the PHS Allen Brands Clinical Pharmacist of the Year Award. Dr. Pacheco has received numerous Unit Commendations and two Commendation Medals for her commitment and dedication to her pharmacy programs and her never-ending efforts for its improvement. Under Dr. Pacheco's direction, pharmacy services at the Milan institution have been recognized by both the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and the BOP Program Review as an area of strength in health services. Additionally, throughout her career, Dr. Pacheco has given numerous presentations, many of which have been ACPE approved, and has had several of her papers published.

MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Dr. Pacheco has had numerous rewarding experiences during her PHS career. Having had the distinct honor of escorting the Surgeon General is very high on her list. However, her most rewarding experience is what she accomplishes daily with each and every patient interaction. To her, the ability to make a difference in the care of her patients and witness first-hand the positive impact of her efforts on their health is the greatest satisfaction of all.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS/ACTIVITIES:

Dr. Pacheco invests a great deal of her time in the development of future pharmacists. Not only does she volunteer as a guest lecturer at area colleges, she is also a Pharmacy Externship Preceptor—educating, challenging, and mentoring the students of today to become the best pharmacists of tomorrow. Additionally, she is a preceptor for the PHS COSTEP student program. On average, she preceptors one student a month and sees this as an ideal opportunity to “give-back” to the community.

She is very involved in the development of new PHS Officers and serves as a mentor in the PHS Pharmacy Mentoring Program. Dr. Pacheco actively recruits for both PHS and BOP. Whether she is lecturing at area pharmacy schools or attending the ASP/APhA Meetings she is continuously promoting the Commissioned Corp, its mission, and the varied opportunities it provides.

In addition to her many recruitment and educational efforts, on several occasions Dr. Pacheco has served on the BOP National Pharmacy and Therapeutics. This committee establishes guidelines for the use of medications in BOP facilities across the country. She was also a member of the BOP Patient Education Advisory Committee which

developed a systematic approach to patient counseling and guidelines for pharmacists currently in use at institutions across BOP. Dr. Pacheco developed a BOP Diabetic Patient Education Program. This program is distributed to and followed by all BOP facilities as a part of the Patient Care Treatment Guidelines.

As an officer of the USPHS, Dr. Pacheco has created a rewarding career track for herself in the Bureau of Prisons. Her willingness to apply her skills and talents in helping one of the most challenging populations in our country is truly a credit to this officer, our society, as well as the PHS.